



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

On the shores of Kekequabic Lake is an augite-granite so closely associated with greenstone-conglomerates (probably tuffs) or greenstone-schists that gradations between the two are thought to have been discovered. Grant, who has studied the same granite, considers it a normal intrusive.

Brush's Manual of Determinative Mineralogy¹ appears in an entirely new edition, — the fifteenth. The book has been completely rewritten by Penfield since the thirteenth edition was published, only the plan of the original having been retained. The contents are entirely new. The present edition differs from its immediate predecessor in the addition of a chapter on the physical properties of minerals and in an entirely new set of analytical tables.

The introductory portion of the volume occupies 244 pages, the tables 58 double pages, and the indices 12 pages. In the index to minerals are found the names of 1015 kinds, a fact that indicates the thoroughness with which the tables cover the field they are intended to cover. There are very few minerals known, except the rarest, that may not easily be identified by following the scheme of analysis indicated by the author.

The chapter on physical properties is devoted mainly to an outline discussion of the principles of crystallography based on the theory of thirty-two classes of symmetry. It treats also very briefly of cohesion, luster, color, and density. All the explanations are clear and the descriptions lucid, so that the student need not have the least difficulty in following them.

There is no question that Professor Penfield's book will rapidly achieve the highest favor among teaching mineralogists. Were it not for the fact that it is somewhat expensive for a book of its kind, it would no doubt soon nearly supplant all other manuals of a similar character among English-speaking students. W. S. B.

Notes. — The interesting group of lava flows for which the name of latite has been proposed by Ransome² is carefully described in a recent Bulletin of the Survey. These rocks have already been referred to in those notes. From the discussion of the relations of the effusives intermediate in character between the trachytes and

¹ *Manual of Determinative Mineralogy, with an Introduction on Blowpipe Analysis*, by George J. Brush. Revised and enlarged, with entirely new tables for the identification of minerals, by Samuel L. Penfield. Fifteenth edition. x + 312 pp., 375 figs. New York, Wiley & Sons, 1898. \$3.50.

² *Bull. U. S. Geol. Survey*, No. 89, Washington, 1898.

the andesites to one another it appears that the author proposes the name to cover a group of different rock types, and not as the name of any special type. The latites embrace all the effusive forms of the monzonite magmas.

Derby¹ has examined a large number of specimens of kaoline, pegmatites, and muscovitic granites and gneisses from different parts of Europe with respect to their rare components. In many of them he has discovered xenotime and monazite.

Watson² has studied the mesozoic diabases near Chatham, Va., and their decomposition products, following the lines laid down by Merrill in the reports of his investigations on weathering. The changes undergone by an olivine diabase in weathering are shown by the first three of the following lines of figures. The fourth line gives the percentage of loss of each constituent in passing from the fresh to the decomposed condition.

	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃ .FeO	CaO	MgO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	H ₂ O	Total.
Fresh rock	45.73	13.48	11.60	9.92	15.40	3.24	.47	.94	= 100.78
Weathered rock	47.87	14.43	11.55	10.45	10.58	3.47	.61	1.82	= 100.78
Decomposed rock	37.09	13.19	35.69	.41	.57	1.75	.33	11.83	= 100.86
	73.64	68.19	0.00	98.68	98.81	82.46	77.31		

The total loss is 70.31 per cent of the original, *i.e.* fresh, rock.

Nitze and Wilkens³ have given us an excellent account of the methods employed in the gold mines of North Carolina and the adjacent southern states, and good descriptions of the mines themselves. Their report appears as a Bulletin of the North Carolina Survey.

Another Bulletin of this energetic and progressive survey is entitled "Clay Deposits and Clay Industry in North Carolina." It is by Ries,⁴ and is one of the best reports on clay that has appeared in this country. It contains the records of numerous analyses, both chemical and mechanical, and a fine description of the special characteristics of clays of economic value.

One of the alterative products of the paleopicrite⁵ of Medenbach, near Herborn, is sahlite. It occurs as acicular crystals imbedded in serpentinized olivine and as fringes of needles bordering brown augite, especially on that side of the augite facing olivine grains.

A marekanite obsidian from Corinto, Nicaragua, is mentioned by

¹ *Mineralogical Magazine*, vol. xi, p. 304.

² *Amer. Geol.*, vol. xxii (1898), p. 85.

³ Nitze, H. B. C., and Wilkins, H. A. J. Gold Mining in North Carolina and Adjacent Appalachian Regions, *Bull. No. 10*, N. C. Geol. Survey, 1897.

⁴ *Bull. No. 13*, N. C. Geol. Survey, 1897.

⁵ Brauns, R. *Neues Jahrb. f. Min. etc.*, vol. ii (1898), p. 79.

Peterson¹ as being represented by specimens in the Natural History Museum at Hamburg. An analysis gave :

SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	H ₂ O	Total.
76.68	14.49	1.09	tr.	.84	1.53	1.20	3.92	.36 =	100.11

The rock is a colorless glass containing numerous globulites, etc., arranged in flowage lines.

GEOGRAPHY.

Map of Alaska.—There has recently been published, by the United States Geological Survey, a *Map of Alaska*, on a scale of 1 : 3,600,000. The map is printed in colors, showing the location of gold and coal, and the distribution of principal gold-bearing series. There are also inserted a map of the principal trails to the headwaters of the Yukon and a map of the Klondike Gold Region, both on a scale of 1 : 1,447,000. A descriptive text contains sketches of the geography and geology of Alaska, with an account of the gold fields and the routes to them.

The German Deep-Sea Expedition.—We copy from the *Geographical Journal* the following account of this expedition up to last November :

“The German Deep-Sea Expedition of 1898 started under the most favorable auspices as regards the vessel itself, the arrangements made to adapt it for carrying on deep-sea investigations, and for the accommodation of the members of the scientific staff, and the apparatus and appliances to be used in carrying on the work, which are of the latest and most approved description. The ‘Valdivia’ is about the same size as H. M. S. ‘Challenger’; she steams 10 to 11 knots; the bacteriological, chemical, and biological laboratories and work-rooms are commodious and well fitted up; the cabins occupied by the scientific staff are large and handsome, the principal cabin containing a splendid scientific library, including a complete set of the *Challenger Reports*, and there is ample accommodation for storing the marine and other collections made throughout the cruise.

“Prof. Carl Chun, professor of zoology in the University of Leipzig, the originator and leader of the expedition, is accompanied by a staff of eleven scientific men, to assist him in carrying on the various

¹ Brauns, R. *Neues Jahrb. f. Min.* etc., vol. ii (1888), p. 156.